

# Educational / Offsite Visits Policy

# **Document Control:**

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### **EDUCATIONAL/OFF-SITE VISITS POLICY**

## **General (Pre-travel)**

- 1. Shariah guidelines pertaining to travel must not be compromised by the intended visit.
- 2. There must be clear and legitimate educational objectives for the intended visit.
- 3. The visit must not contradict Al-Islah Girls High School's Health and Safety Policy.
- 4. A risk assessment will be completed by the Group Leader. Appropriate measures will be taken to control risks, and participants (adults and children) will be made aware of the measures.
- 5. The Headteacher will ensure that adequate child protection procedures are in place, and that in the case of non-teacher supervisors, only adults suitable for child supervision are allowed to accompany pupils on an educational visit.
- 6. The minimum ratio of supervisors is 1 adult for every 10-15 pupils (Year 7 onwards). The pupils in question, their individual needs, type of visit and type/s of activity to be undertaken must be considered in reaching suitable supervisor ratios.
- 7. Appropriate and adequate first aid provision will be made available and any other medical arrangements, if required.
- 8. The Head-teacher will ensure that the mode of transport is appropriate, and that the visit is covered by appropriate insurance cover.
- 9. The Group Leader will ensure that the relevant documentary evidence and forms have been completed and retained by all concerned parties (i.e. parental consent slips, medical forms, risk assessments etc.).
- 10. Al-Islah Girls High School will endeavour to make all school activities available and accessible to anybody who wishes to participate, in line with its Equal Opportunities Policy.

### Communication

The Group Leader will collate and provide to relevant parties:

- The address and phone number of the venue of the visit and a contact name at the venue.
- Travel times for outwards and return trips, and pick-up and drop-off points.
- Details of a school contact (which the Group Leader must retain and have on his/her person throughout the visit).
- Details of all travelling adults and children and contact names and numbers of parents/next-of kin.
- Details of costs will be provided well in advance to parents, so that payment can be planned, if need be.
- In the case of 'remote supervision' parents will be informed, in writing, prior to the visit (see DfES guidance: HASPEV).
- The Head-teacher will make copies of the insurance schedule available to parents as early as possible (if applicable).

## **The Group Leader's Responsibilities**

The Group Leader will:

- Have overall responsibility for the visit. They will seek prior consent from the Head-teacher and appoint a deputy, who will work in close conjunction with them.
- Carry out a risk assessment well before the visit.
- Ensure all relevant forms are completed and retained
- Secure a written assurance that providers, e.g. tour operators, have themselves assessed the risks and have appropriate safety measures in place.
- Undertake an exploratory visit prior to the actual visit, to experience the venue first-hand.
- Ensure that pupils are appropriately briefed prior to the visit (e.g. they should know what to do in if they are separated from the rest of the group).
- Be well within their rights to stop a pupil who is considered a danger to themselves or others from participating (after consultation with the Head-teacher).
- Clearly define all adult responsibilities and roles.
- Ensure that non-teacher supervisors are not left solely in charge of pupils in any given situation.
- Keep a written record of all events, times and contacts in case of an incident. In such a situation, they will decline media interest, and ensure that other group members do not provide the media with information.